

**Remarks**

We acknowledge and appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter in the pending claims, and we have accordingly amended the claims to place them in condition for allowance. Specifically, we have incorporated the subject matter of claim 4 into claim 1, and canceled claims 4 and 23-26. We have also made a minor amendment to claim 3 to harmonize its language with the language of claim 1, from which claim 3 depends.

In light of the claim amendments, we respectfully submit that the application is in excellent condition for allowance and we respectfully request that the entire application be allowed at an early date. If there remain any issues that the Examiner believes may be resolved through discussion, we cordially invite the Examiner to contact Applicants' representative at the phone number provided below.

This response is being filed after four months but before five months after the April 10, 2004 mailing date of the outstanding Office action. Authorization to charge the fee required for a two-month extension for response, as well as any other fee deemed to be required, to deposit Account No. 05-1070 is hereby granted.

Respectfully submitted,



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